

MINUTES
January 13, 2012 Meeting
Indiana State Advisory Council (SAC)
on the Education of Children with Disabilities
H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center
8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN, 46240

<u>Council Members:</u>	<u>Present (Yes/No)</u>
Shirley Amond , Parent Representative	Y
Rich Burden , Director, IN*SOURCE	Y
Kim Dodson , ARC of Indiana	Y
Dawn Downer , Director, First Steps	Y
Dr. Karol Farrell , SAC Chairperson, Director of Special Education, MSD of Washington Twp	Y
James Hammond , President/CEO, INARF, Inc.	N
Cathlene Hardy Hansen , Parent Representative	N
Julie Havill , Parent Representative	N
Bessie Henson , Parent Representative	N
Jan Huffman , Parent Representative	Y
Marcia Johnson , Principal, Indianapolis Public Schools	Y
Lisa Kovacs , Director, Guide by your Side	Y
Becky Kirk , Parent Representative	N
Dr. J. Bret Lewis , Superintendent, South Montgomery Community School Corporation	N
Kathy Mears , Associate Director, Archdiocese of Indianapolis	Y
John Nally , Director, Indiana Department of Correction	Y
Jenny Ridao , Indiana State Department of Health, ICF-DD	N
Dr. Jane Swiss , Dean, University of St. Francis School of Professional Studies	Y
Kristi Tesmer , Parent Representative	N
Thelma Wyatt , Parent Representative	N

Also Present:

Nicole Norvell, IDOE

Tracy Brunner, IDOE

John Hill, IDOE

Cheryl Harshman, North Central Regional Special Education Round Table

Call to Order

Chair Karol Farrell called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Eleven of twenty members were present.

Informational Items

Indiana's State Director of Special Education Nicole Norvell distributed handouts prepared by IDOE staff member John Hill and briefly summarized recent changes in specific definitions, calculations and baselines for Special Education Compliance Indicators 4, 9 and 10. Nicole and John shared information on the process for obtaining US DOE approval of these federally required changes and fielded questions concerning the IDOE's role and challenges in that process.

SAC Legislative Committee Chair Kim Dodson distributed a list of education-related bills recently introduced in the Indiana General Assembly, noting applicable deadlines during this year's "short session." Kim responded to questions and Nicole Norvell added brief comments per Kim's request. There was general discussion regarding

the content of specific legislation and methods for communication between SAC members and the SAC Legislative Committee. Council members explored possibilities for commenting on specific legislation. No formal action was taken.

Per the council's request, Nicole Norvell summarized the timelines and process for submission of the State's ESEA waiver application, which is currently pending federal approval.

Action Items

Marcia Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2011 SAC meeting. Lisa Kovacs seconded, and the motion carried.

Recommendations and Concerns of the Council Members

By general consent, council members agreed the January meeting would substitute for the regularly scheduled February meeting. All concurred there is no need to hold the March meeting, which was tentatively scheduled only if needed.

Public Comment

Guest Cheryl Harshman explained she was attending on behalf of the ICASE North Central Regional Roundtable and expressed her appreciation of the council's advisory role.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

SAC Legislative Committee Report

October 13, 2011

Update on the Interim Study Committee on Education Issues.

The Committee on Education Issues held their final meeting of the summer on September 29, 2011. The meeting focused on Superintendent Compensation Packages, graduation rates and the importance of early childhood education on graduation rates.

Proposed legislation was discussed and passed on the issue of Superintendent Compensation Packages.

The charge the committee was given around the placement of students in special education programs and the waiver process for high school graduation for students in special education programs was not discussed this summer.

A conversation was held with Representative Bob Behning (R-Indianapolis) where he discussed the issue and felt that adequate time would not be available to discuss all of the issues the committee was charged to discuss so the conversation around special education students would be brought up next summer.

The testimony presented at the last meeting regarding the importance of early childhood education was very informative and available on the website of the Committee if people are interested.

The link to the committee is:

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/interim/committee/icei.html>

The Legislative Committee of the SAC will continue to update the Council on education issues being discussed during the legislative session that will begin in January.